

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 DOE-15 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 SOE-02
SS-15 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 NEA-10 DOEE-00 NRC-05 SP-02 CEQ-01 /145 W
-----014752 040044Z /70

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2420
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02782

DEPT PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR ARTHUR MORRISSEY,
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: TSPA, UNGA
SUBJECT: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE: NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES
IN SPACE

REF: USUN 2768

1. AT INFORMAL WORKING GROUP MEETING JULY 3, OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE MEMBERS DEVELOPED A TEXT ON NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES, WHICH GENERALLY ENJOYS AD REFERENDUM CONCURRENCE. DRAFT PAPER (TEXT BELOW) CONTAINS INSTRUCTIONS TO SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE TO ESTABLISH AN EXPERT WORKING GROUP. NEW TEXT NO LONGER HAS LIMITING WORD "APPROPRIATE" BEFORE "SAFETY MEASURES" IN SECOND SENTENCE. SOVIETS AGREED TO A GA RESOLUTION PARAGRAPH WHICH PROVIDES FOR NOTIFICATION PRIOR TO REENTRY AS A CONSEQUENCE OF MALFUNCTION.

2. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT THE TEXT AS AGREED UPON MEETS ALL OF OUR REQUIREMENTS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
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DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS/CONCURRENCE BY NOON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, AT WHICH TIME THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER THE TEXT FORMALLY.

3. TEXT OF DRAFT PAPER FOLLOWS:
BEGIN TEXT:

1. THE PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE WAS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 141 OF THE REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (A/AC.105/216) AND PARAGRAPH 17 OF THE REPORT OF ITS LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE (A/AC.105/218). AFTER A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE PROBLEM THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO REQUEST THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE TO INCLUDE IN THE AGENDA OF ITS 16TH SESSION CONSIDERATION OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND SAFETY MEASURES RELATING TO THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS OF GOVERNMENTS AS SET OUT IN PARTICULAR IN PARAGRAPH 139 OF ITS REPORT (A/AC.105/216) AND INFORMATION FURNISHED AND TO REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE ON THESE MATTERS. MEMBER STATES ARE ACCORDINGLY INVITED TO INCLUDE IN THEIR DELEGATIONS TO THE SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE EXPERTS COMPETENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSIDERATION OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND SAFETY MEASURES RELATING TO THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE SHOULD, UNLESS IT DECIDES OTHERWISE, CREATE A WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS OPEN TO ALL ITS MEMBERS TO MEET DURING THE SESSION AND TO REPORT TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE. IN THIS CASE, THE WORKING GROUP SHOULD PREFERABLY MEET DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THE SESSION

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OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE IN ORDER THAT A REPORT COULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF ITS SESSION. FOR THAT PURPOSE, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT, IF NECESSARY, THE SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE COULD BE EXTENDED BY NOT MORE THAN ONE WEEK.

2. TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SECTION OF THE REPORT DEALING WITH LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE MATTERS:

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE INCLUDE IN ITS AGENDA AN ITEM ENTITLED: "OTHER MATTERS."

3. DRAFT RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:

APPROVES THE DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE IN THE AGENDA OF ITS SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND APPROPRIATE SAFETY MEASURES RELATING TO THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE, FOR WHICH PURPOSE THE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE SHOULD, UNLESS IT DECIDES OTHERWISE, CREATE A WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS TO MEET DURING ITS SESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH . . . OF THE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

REQUESTS LAUNCHING STATES TO INFORM STATES CONCERNED
IN THE EVENT THAT A SPACE OBJECT WITH NUCLEAR POWER
SOURCES ON BOARD IS MALFUNCTIONING WITH A RISK OF
REENTRY OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS TO EARTH.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEES
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Draft Date: 04 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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TAGS: TSPA, UNGA
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